

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Tsutomu SHIGA et al.

Application No.: 10/743,103

Filed: December 23, 2003 Docket No.: 117386.99

For: STARTER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the Office Action is attached for the Examiner's information.
- 3. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 9, 2004

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Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Date: March 9, 2004

Examiner: